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NEW FORM 26AS TO INCLUDE HIGH-VALUE TRANSACTIONS

The changes will help taxpayers know their actual tax liability, the Central Board of Direct Taxes said on Saturday

SFTs TO BE SHOWN IN REVAMPED FORM

The direct taxes board said it used to receive information like cash deposit/withdrawal, sale/purchase of immovable property, purchase of shares, etc from "specified persons" like banks and registrars. Now, all such information under different Statement of Financial Transaction (SFT) will be shown in Part E of the new Form 26AS

CHANGES TO DISCOURAGE CONCEALMENT

- The new form will have SFTs in various categories to help taxpayers recall all their major financial transactions
- "This would help the honest taxpayers with updated financial transactions, whereas it will desist those who inadvertently conceal financial transactions while filing returns," CBDT said

Form 26AS

IS AN ANNUAL CONSOLIDATED TAX STATEMENT

I have also heard same reasons and more. But now is not the time to discuss them. We (BBMP officials and team) did what was required at that moment to control the crises. Quick decisions needed to be taken

B H Anil Kumar, outgoing BBMP commissioner

For me to continue from where the previous commissioner left should not be difficult. My top priority is to bring down the death rate. I am ready to have sleepless nights once again

N Manjunatha Prasad, new BBMP commissioner

GOVT MOVES OUT B'LURU CIVIC BODY CHIEF, BRINGS IN OLD HAND

Development comes in the midst of city's grim battle against Covid-19

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

IN a sudden turn of events, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Commissioner B H Anil Kumar was transferred on Saturday morning. The move came as a surprise to many as he was shunted out in the midst of the Covid-19 crisis in the city.

Another IAS officer, N Manjunatha Prasad, who had handed over charge to Anil Kumar on August 28 last year, was posted back as the Palike chief with immediate effect.

Anil Kumar's transfer came a day after he and Mayor M Goutham Kumar said that the lockdown should be extended till the month-end. While citizens, opposition leaders, BBMP, health department and many government officials on Covid-19 duty had seconded the opinion, it had not gone down well with the government. "He had sought more time to make preparations, but the government saw it is as a failure. Officers are forced to toe the government line or face the same fate, even when the politicians are wrong," a senior IAS officer told *The New Sunday Express*, seeking anonymity.

Kumar was Additional Chief Secretary to the Urban Development Department before he took charge as BBMP Commissioner. He has now been posted as Additional Chief Secretary, Public Enterprise, in place of V Rashmi, who has been posted as Secretary to the Kannada and Culture Department.

Manjunatha Prasad, who was Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, will continue to hold concurrent charge along with Disaster Management, Bhoomi and UPOR. P3

INTERVIEWS: P4

Pvt med colleges to reserve 50% beds for Covid patients

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

PRIVATE medical college hospitals in Bengaluru have agreed to reserve 50 per cent beds for treating Covid-19 patients from Sunday after their meeting with Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa on Saturday. With this, the government will have an additional 5,200 beds available for treating symptomatic Covid-19 patients, while asymptomatic ones will have the option of home isolation or being sent to Covid Care Centres (CCC). Nodal officers have been appointed to monitor the availability of beds in the medical college hospitals.

"We have sufficient number of beds in the CCCs, but we required beds in hospitals for treating symptomatic patients. Now, they have agreed to give 50 per cent beds and some have even offered 100 per cent beds in their hospitals," Revenue Minister R Ashoka told *TNSE* after the CM's meeting with representatives of college managements. P5

Rebel Cong MLAs on the move, cops in hot pursuit

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

THE political drama in Rajasthan took another turn on Saturday with the Anti-Corruption Bureau lodging an FIR in connection with two audio clips hinting at a conspiracy to topple the Ashok Gehlot government. The BJP filed a police complaint against three Congress leaders, including Randeep Surjewala and Govind Singh Dotasra, for allegedly defaming Union Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat in connection with the audio tapes.

Earlier, the Special Operations Group (SOG) of the Rajasthan Police had lodged two FIRs and arrested businessman Sanjay Jain on Friday.

Meanwhile, an SOG team that travelled to Manesar in Haryana, where 19 MLAs of the Sachin Pilot camp were staying at a resort but moved out before the sleuths could enter the premises, is staying back in the NCR to trace the rebels.

Though there was some buzz that the rebels could have headed to Bengaluru, sources ruled it out citing the Covid situation.

According to sources, the SOG wanted to record the voice sample of MLA Bhanwar Lal Sharma, who was allegedly heard in one of the tapes discussing bribe to topple the Gehlot-led government.

On Friday, the SOG team was stopped for almost an hour before being allowed inside by the Haryana Police, and now the Rajasthan police says the Haryana cops in the BJP-ruled state did not cooperate fully and allowed the MLAs to slip away.

According to sources, a few members of the SOG team moved to Delhi to question Union Minister Shekhawat after the requisite permission.

The BJP demanded a CBI enquiry into the audio tapes. "Is phone tapping not a legal issue? Were the standard procedures followed for phone tapping? The CM should answer if the state machinery was misused and if there is a veiled emergency in the state," said BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra.

Meanwhile, Gehlot met Governor Kalraj Mishra on Saturday evening. P7

All eyes on SC collegium as judge retires

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

WITH Justice R Banumathi set to retire on July 19, the number of women judges in the Supreme Court will come down to two, and the overall judge strength to 31.

Keeping this in mind, the SC Collegium is planning to recommend two names for elevation to fill the existing vacancies in the apex court. Sources said a meeting of the Collegium is likely to be convened soon.

One of the names doing the rounds is that of Karnataka High Court judge B V Nagarathna. If she is elevated to the top court now, she will be in line to become the first woman Chief Justice of India in 2027 for a period of eight months.

However, if Justice Nagarathna doesn't get elevated—which comes with a three-year extension—she will retire in October 2024. Her father Justice E S Venkataramiah was the CJI from June to December in 1989. P8

K'TAKA COVID-19 BATTLE

4,537 TEST +VE ON SATURDAY | **59,652** POSITIVE CASES SO FAR | **21,775** TOTAL RECOVERIES | **1,240** DEATHS SO FAR

Mysuru now 3rd in K'taka in Covid deaths, with fatality rate nearly double the state average

A two-month-old baby was among four who died of the virus in Dakshina Kannada district

REPORTS: P6

STAFF POSITIVE

TTD mulls closing Tirumala temple

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tirupati

THE Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) is expected to take a call in the next few days on whether to close the Srivari temple to devotees or further restrict their entry after 140 TTD employees, including 14 priests, tested positive for Covid-19.

The Tirumala temple has been providing Srivari darshan to 12,000 devotees every day since it reopened on June 11.

In recent days, agama advisor of the devasthanam AV Ramana Dikshitulu and others have called on the TTD to close the shrine to devotees for a few weeks to protect the priests.

TTD chairman YV Subba Reddy was to meet officials on Saturday evening to decide on the future course of action. However, sources said the meeting did not take place, and it was understood that Reddy spoke to TTD executive officer Anil Kumar Singhal. A final decision, the sources said, may be taken after consultation with Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Subba Reddy was not available for comment when *The New Sunday Express* tried to reach him.

Agency reports quoting the TTD chairman said the senior pontiff of Shree Pedda Jeeyar Swamy Mutt had tested positive for coronavirus. His condition is stable.

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